

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

10/554401

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JBBT-007-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005733	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 21 April 2004 (21.04.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24 April 2003 (24.04.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant SOFTBANK BB CORP.		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Date of issuance of this report 02 March 2006 (02.03.2006) Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Yoshiko Kuwahara</p> Telephone No. +41 22 338 90 90
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Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)

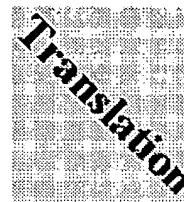
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT



WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JBBT-007-PCT		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005733		International filing date (day/month/year) 21.04.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		Priority date (day/month/year) 24.04.2003	
Applicant SOFTBANK BB CORP.			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/IP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005733

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language

_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐

a sequence listing

☐

table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐

in written format

☐

in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐

contained in the international application as filed.

☐

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐

furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005733

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2000-75974 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.)
14 March 2000, full text, all drawings

Document 2: JP 8-180148 A (Canon Inc.), 12 July 1996, full text, all drawings

Document 3: JP 8-123932 A (Nissin Electric Co., Ltd.), 17 June 1996, full text, all drawings

Document 4: JP 2002-366501 A (Murata MFG. Co., Ltd.)
20 December 2002, paragraphs 27 and 28, all drawings

Document 5: JP 7-152609 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 16 June 1995, full text, all drawings

Document 6: JP 10-171957 A (Murata MFG. Co., Ltd.), 26 June 1998, full text, all drawings & US
6182204 B1

Document 7: JP 11-306129 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 05 November 1999, full
text, all drawings

Document 8: JP 11-24807 A (Media Intelligent K.K.)
29 January 1999, full text, all drawings

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/005733

Box No. VI		Certain documents cited	
1. Certain published documents (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.10)			
Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
JP 2004-133539 A [E, Y]	30.04.2004	08.10.2002	
JP 2003-157801 A [E, Y]	03.06.2004	07.11.2002	
2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.9)			
Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of Box V:

Invention relating to claim 1:

A PC card for realizing a plurality of functions comprising a connection connector, card connector and communication control section and connected to an information processing device is indicated in documents 1-3; therefore, a PC card, wherein card attribute information and card configuration information are stored in an attribute area is a common technology as indicated in, for example, documents 2, 4 and 5 etc.

Also, a multi-function PC card comprising a plurality of functions, wherein attribute information or the like corresponding to each function is integrally managed and sequentially stored from a first address to designate and use an address corresponding to the function is a well-known art as indicated in, for example, documents 6-8 etc.

While the point of disposing card information of a separate card in an attribute area of a PC card connected to an information processing device is not specifically described in documents 1-3, it is clear that the inventions of documents 1-3 also are configured such that attribute information and configuration information corresponding to a function to be used is used by referring to an address in which the same is stored; therefore, in a PC card directly connected to an information processing device indicated in documents 1-3, using the above well-known art of integrally managing attribute information or the like corresponding to the above plurality of functions to configure the invention relating to claim 1 of the present application, wherein attribute information and configuration information of a separate card are obtained and two functions are sequentially stored in the attribute area of the PC card could be easily conceived of by a party skilled in the art.

Which one of the two functions is to be stored in the first address is a matter of design variation that could be carried out as appropriate by a party skilled in the art.

Invention relating to claim 2:

The inventions of document 6 (see particularly CIS switch setting section 11 etc.) and documents 7 and 8 also realize a plurality of functions using a single card slot by referring to an address section corresponding to a function to be used.

Invention relating to claim 3:

Regarding the point of maintaining an interrupt signal from one card side, when an interrupt signal prepared for a card slot is allocated to an interrupt signal from one card side, an interrupt signal of the other card cannot be immediately notified to an information processing device, and there is a need in maintaining a signal for a prescribed period until the interrupt signal is recognized by the information processing device by a prescribed method; therefore, it is a constitution naturally achieved based on the constitution of claim 1.

Invention relating to claim 4:

Both PC card comprising a wireless LAN communication function, and a CF card comprising a PHS communication function are well-known art.

Inventions relating to claims 5-7:

The inventions relating to a PC card control method described in claims 5-7 differ from the inventions relating to a PC card described in claims 1-4 simply in categories, and in view of the matters described in cited documents 1-8 indicated in the reasons for claims 1-4, it is found that cited inventions having difference only in categories are simply described; therefore, they do not appear to involve an inventive step based on the same reasons indicated for claims 1-4.